Application no. 10/613,413

Response to Final Office Action mailed November 14, 2005

Attorney docket: 11000.1037c5

REMARKS

Favorable reconsideration of the subject patent application is respectfully requested in view of the above amendments and the following remarks. Following the amendments, claims 72-76, 82-86, 92 and 94 are pending in the application, with claims 72 and 82 being in independent format.

Claims 77-81, 87-91, 93 and 95 have been canceled from the application.

Claim Rejections under 35 USC §102(b)

Claims 77-81, 87-91, 93 and 95 stand finally rejected under 35 USC §102(b) as being anticipated by WO 00/24756 to Ruben et al.

While applicants strongly disagree with the Examiner's position and do not acquiesce in this rejection, claims 77-81, 87-91, 93 and 95 have been canceled from the application in order to expedite allowance of the remaining claims. Applicants specifically reserve the right to pursue claims directed to the subject matter of canceled claims 77-81, 87-91, 93 and 95 in a related application.

Concluding Remarks

The Examiner has indicated that claims 72-76, 82-86, 92 and 94 are allowable. Early issuance of a Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested. Should the Examiner have any further concerns regarding the claims, he is respectfully requested to telephone the undersigned at 206.382.1191

Respectfully submitted.

Janet Sleath

Registration No. 37,007

Date: January 4, 2006

SPECKMAN LAW GROUP PLLC

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